



Town of Garner NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GPD Holds Successful Operation Medicine Drop Event

The Garner Police Department asked citizens to clean out their medicine cabinets, and they answered the call. On March 21, police held an Operation Medicine Drop event at Town Hall and collected over 140 pounds of unused and unwanted medications.

Operation Medicine Drop is an effort coordinated by the N.C. Department of Insurance, Safe Kids North Carolina, the State Bureau of Investigation, Riverkeepers of NC and local groups to prevent accidental poisonings and substance abuse and to protect our waters.

"People were very appreciative to have the opportunity to bring in their expired and unwanted medications," Garner Police Sgt. Chris Adams said. "These events are vital in keeping medications out of the wrong hands and preventing them from winding up in our waterways."

With unintentional poisoning deaths on the rise in the state, Operation Medicine Drop reminds parents and caregivers to:

- Keep medicines locked up and out of reach of children.
- Always read labels, follow directions and give medicines to children based on their weights and ages. Only use the dispensers packaged with children's medications.
- Avoid taking medicine or vitamins in front of kids, and don't call them candy.

If you suspect poisoning and a child is choking, collapses, can't breathe or is having a seizure, call 911. Otherwise, take the product to the phone and call the national Poison Help hotline at 1-800-222-1222.

For more information about Operation Medicine Drop, visit ncsafekids.org, or call Sgt. Adams at (919) 772-8810.

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